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Only Newspaper
Published In Torrance



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Within 5-Mile Radius

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Section
8 Pages
This Issue

Consolidated
Edition
Torrance Herald
and Lomita News

EIGHTEENTH YEAR—No. 23

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1932

5c PER COPY

ATTEMPT TO DETHRONE MAYOR FOLLOWS ATTACK ON STEINER

Klusman Attacks Many City Officials; Ludlow Chastizes Mayor for Tactics But Agrees With Him On Police Clean-up

Mayor Klusman renewed his attacks upon Councilman R. A. R. Steiner, City Engineer Frank Leonard and Supt. of Streets Wm. Gascoigne at Tuesday night's council meeting when "His Honor" unsuccessfully attempted to unseat Steiner from the chairmanship of the Public Works Committee and to disqualify Leonard and Gascoigne from serving as city engineer and street superintendent.

Hurrying through city business which came up earlier in the meeting on the plea that he had something "very important to bring up," Klusman opened up his barrage on Steiner, Leonard and Gascoigne.

With the charge that they had violated the law and were therefore disqualified to remain in their positions. Without waiting for the council to act or even to give the other members of the council an opportunity to express themselves, Klusman, assuming that he had the power to remove Steiner, appointed Councilman Scott Ludlow as acting chairman of the public works committee and added that he (the mayor) would help Ludlow perform the additional duties.

Mayor Klusman based his charges on the assumption that Councilman Steiner, as well as City Engineer Leonard and Supt. of Streets Gascoigne had "unlawfully" authorized the lowering of certain water pipe lines which crossed Sepulveda boulevard at city expense, and asserted that this work should have been done by Charles Quandt whose water company owns the pipe lines.

Steiner answered that under the Quandt franchise that the city would have had to give Quandt 30 days notice to do the work in which event the county crews would have been withdrawn from the job and many local men working for the county would have been thrown out of work. Steiner also cited the case of the board of supervisors vs. Pan-American Oil Company, in which the county was compelled to pay for the removal of the oil company's pipe lines on Vermont avenue when that road was put through; and he asserted that even if the city had given Quandt the required 30 days notice, that the cost would have had to be borne by the city. Steiner

TURN TO STORY ONE
Page 2

Donations to Unemployment Fund Asked

City Officials Authorized to Act As Custodians of Money

All those who wish to contribute toward the aid of the unemployed may do so through bonded city officials, according to action taken by the city council this week. On motion of Councilman Steiner, City Clerk Bartlett was authorized to receive contributions from anyone and to deposit the funds with City Treasurer Harry Dolley. The money will be spent through the department of public works and will be used exclusively for employing men now out of work. Steiner has fathered such a plan for nearly a year, but official sanction was not given until this week.

Councilman Scott Ludlow made a plea for donations, emphasizing the dire needs. He suggested that organizations such as the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, as well as all other local organizations, forego any plans for social parties and donate the cost of such parties to the unemployment fund. Ludlow also suggested that people be asked to give \$1 or \$2 a week. "We must give until it hurts," said Ludlow, "as the country is coming to a point where something must be done."

Since the Tuesday night meeting, tentative plans are being discussed for conducting a drive similar to war-loan campaigns.

HARBOR CITY MAN DIES AT HOME OF SON

George W. Titus, a retired engineer—aged 82 years, died at the home of his son, William J. Titus, 2217 26th street, Harbor City, Monday. Funeral services were held this afternoon at Stone & Myers chapel, Rev. Wendell Miller of the Harbor City church, officiating. Interment was made at Roosevelt Memorial Park.

Lutheran Church Sponsors Daily Vacation School

A daily vacation Bible school has been scheduled for two weeks, beginning June 20, to be held in the Parish hall of the First Lutheran church, Acadia street and Sonoma avenue. The school will be open five mornings each week from 9:15 to 11:15.

The work of the school has been arranged according to the age of the child with the Bible stories as the center of the training. The sand table will be used for the Bible ones, Bible story puzzles for the primary children, crayon and cut-out work for the juniors, singing and study of favorite hymns and missionary stories for all. Children of kindergarten age and over are welcome, with a special invitation to children that are not attending any Sunday school.

Around the Council Table

Council accepted a deed from the Ellinwood Estate donating a right-of-way for Sepulveda boulevard through the Ellinwood property. This is the final piece to be dedicated on the Sepulveda project and will insure the renewal of work on improving the boulevard.

An offer to lease the sewer farm was received from C. H. Robertson, San Gabriel. A two-year lease was asked for the 4 1/2 acres owned by the city and formerly leased to the Torrance Brick Company, now bankrupt. Robertson agreed to pay the city 10 cents a yard for whatever clay and sand was used. The matter was referred to the public works committee.

"I know too much now," was Mayor Klusman's comment to an invitation extended by a representative of the University of Southern California for city officials to attend the Fifth Annual Institute of Government to be held at the university June 13 to 17. Professor Edwin Cattrell of Stanford, an authority on municipal government, is scheduled to be one of the principal speakers. The council turned down the offer to attend, which would have cost \$25 for a group membership.

The cost to the city of holding a hearing before the State Railroad Commission on local water rates would be \$250, providing the city did not employ special counsel, City Attorney Jensen reported. Jensen also told the council that the citizens' water committee had recommended a 25 per cent cut in present rates and that this report was now being studied by officials of the water company in Ohio.

Street lights were ordered put on a metered basis instead of the present flat rate charge, which is expected will save over \$1000 a year under the present schedule of burning only half the lights.

Mayor Klusman asked that a hose wagon be stationed in Walteria, but was told by a Walteria resident in the audience that it would be useless as the fire hose is 4-inch and the water mains in Walteria only 2 inches.

Answering Mayor Klusman's wall that "I hate to tell you what the delinquent taxes are going to be this year," Councilman Ludlow, chairman of the finance committee, informed the council that all but \$3900 had been collected and City Clerk Bartlett added that much of this will come in. Delinquencies in Torrance are only about one per cent greater this year than last, Councilman Wright stated.

Will Advertise Torrance to Hot Belt Communities

Tourists from Arizona will be invited to make Torrance their headquarters this summer during the Olympic Games. The invitation will be broadcast in a series of advertisements in Phoenix and Tucson newspapers between now and July 10, according to plans perfected by the Chamber of Commerce. A \$300 appropriation was voted by the city council this week to cover the cost of the campaign.

PIONEER DAYS PASSED AWAY MONDAY

Benjamin F. Linderman, father of Harry Linderman of Lomita, passed away suddenly at 3023 Star street, Lomita, Monday, at the age of 89 years. The remains were taken to Los Angeles where funeral services were held. Interment was made at Inglewood.

Santa Monica will hold its third annual "Pioneer Days Celebration" on June 20-25.

Mrs. L. R. Brandon and daughter are enjoying a vacation at Lakeview, Oregon.

POPCORN MAN IS LEAVING

After nine years in Torrance Joe Stevens is moving away. The popular popcorn man who has held down the corner at the First National Bank through rain and shine and winter weather for all these years is going to Glendale. He says, that he is sorry to go. And the people of Torrance will say right back to him, Well, Joe, we hate to see you leave.

Business interests and an opportunity for his daughter, who graduates this year from Torrance high, to go to college in Los Angeles without the trouble and expense of commuting are his reasons. He's putting on a sale of his stock at half price that has attracted all the kids in town who are laying in a supply of candy bars and so on to be prepared for the day that Joe moves away. Well, so long Joe, and a lot of good luck and a bigger opportunity to you in Glendale.

SET ELECTION DATE TO VOTE RELIEF BONDS

Action On \$12,000,000 Issue Up to the People On July 15

Election date for the approval of an issue of \$12,000,000 in bonds for relief of unemployment and distress was set by the board of supervisors this week for July 15. The election was approved on motion of Supervisor John R. Quinn. Not a dollar of the bond funds must be wasted. It was stressed by speakers who appeared before the board Wednesday. The distribution of funds will be supervised by an advisory committee of seven members.

Two-thirds vote of the people will be necessary to carry the bonds, which, if voted, will be issued in small amounts, probably as low as \$25, in order to give everyone a chance to purchase them.

A drive similar to the Liberty Loan campaigns will be staged for the sale if the bonds are voted. It was specified that \$3,500,000 of the total is to be turned into the county welfare budget to cut the tax rate for the coming fiscal year, which was \$8 cents last year. Supervisor Quinn insisted that if the bonds are voted that all money must be put into labor on worthy projects. He insisted, particularly on the improvement of Sepulveda boulevard, Lomita boulevard, South Figueroa street, Santa Fe avenue and Normandie, all highway projects of great importance to the harbor district.

Since home owners are now losing their homes at the rate of at least three a day through foreclosure proceedings, it has been observed that some drastic step must be taken to end such a distressing situation. The Los Angeles Home Owners Trust Fund is the result of the thought and labor of a ways and means committee appointed recently by Mayor John C. Porter of Los Angeles.

Under their plan a fund of \$2,000,000 is to be raised, from which loans will be made to meet the immediate needs of the property owner who is faced with eviction. The sum is to be raised by the sale of beneficiary interests at \$100 each, through public subscription developed by churches, service clubs and civic organizations.

The trust must be liquidated in five years, or sooner, in the discretion of the trustees if the need for its operation disappears through the return to prosperity of those to whom loans are made, and equal distribution of all trust funds and accumulated earnings will be made to the holders of beneficiary interests as their interests may appear.

The campaign to raise Torrance's share of \$75 will begin at once, and a vigorous effort will be made in every community to put the trust fund into operation as early as possible in order to save as many as possible of the small property owners who are now in distressed circumstances.

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Calendar of Events In Commencement Week

Events of the closing week of school at the Torrance high will begin with commencement services in the auditorium on Sunday evening, June 12, when the summer class of '32, to the number of 52 will listen to the sermon delivered for this occasion by Rev. G. G. Elder of the Christian church. The affair will begin at 7 o'clock.

The program as offered on this evening will be as follows:
Invocation, Rev. O. D. Wonder.
"Gloria Patria" Palestrina;
"Chorale" Bach; by the Madrigal Singers.

Scripture reading, R. V. Roelofs.
Prayer, Rev. Kemp J. Winkler.
Sermon, Rev. G. G. Elder.
Benediction, Rev. J. H. Speed.

On Monday the former graduates will meet in their annual homecoming day. On Tuesday the seniors will hold their class day program. On Wednesday the junior high school graduates summer commencement exercises in the auditorium at 1:30, George Bradford, master of ceremonies, will preside. The program as arranged for this occasion includes:

Piano solo, "Meditation," Ruth Granger.
Oration, "The Story of Our Flag," Vivian Carroll.
"The Smiling Dawn," "Dark Eyes," by the Girls' Glee club.
Poem, "The Unfurling of the Flag," Alice Penneman.
"The Cowboy," "Robin Hood," by the Boys' Glee club.

Oration, "Ancient Olympic Games," Roger McGinnis.
Vocal solo, "Cavertina," William Emery.
Oration, "Modern Day Olympics," James Grubbs.
Presentation of diplomas, Principal Herbert S. Wood.
Commencement on Thursday evening, June 16, will be followed by an informal reception in the patio.

The program as prepared for commencement is as follows:
Invocation, Rev. K. J. Winkler.
Vocal solo, "Trees," Marje Belasco.
"The Silver Swan," "Which Is the Properest Day to Sing" by Madrigal Singers.
Oration, "History of the Olympics," Bertha Hinman.
Vocal trio, "Dark Eyes," Bernice Baker, Margery Roelofs, Virginia Turner.

Oration, "Modern Olympics," Lendel Elder.
Vocal solo, "Two Grenadiers," Van Barteckho.
Oration, "Women in the Olympics," Ruth Wilhelm.
Violin solo, Marguerite Lincoln.
Presentation of Scholarship Honors, Miss Irene Mills, Sponsor, Ch. S. F.

Presentation of Ephesian Rings, Miss Elizabeth F. Parks, Vice Principal.
Presentation of class, Mr. Herbert S. Wood, Principal.
Presentation of Diplomas, Mr. L. C. Dale, member of Board of Education.
Recessional.

Work on the new Fern avenue elementary school in Torrance today is well under way, with the grading of the site at the corner of Fern avenue and El Dorado street. A cut between five and six feet is necessary to bring the building site down to grade and the earth excavated is being placed at another place.

George Mitty, Los Angeles contractor, was low bidder on the general contract, and the building permit calls for a structure to cost \$84,000. The building is a 12-unit structure.
Excavation work is being done by the Owl Trucking Company, having been sublet by Mitty. The Owl Company is a Compton concern. Approximately a dozen men are being employed at the outset. The building, which will face Fern avenue, will be of the Spanish type of architecture, with brick walls and stucco exterior and red tile roof. Stairways and corridors, however, are to be of reinforced concrete, to conform to the laws governing construction of school buildings.

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Four From Torrance In Graduating Class

Torrance members of the U. S. C. graduating class which received diplomas on Saturday, June 4, were Alice L. Carothers, B. S. in education; Julia Lynn McManus, B. S. in education; Russell C. Hatton, B. S. in mechanical engineering; and Gladys Helen Black, master of arts.

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P. O. EMPLOYEES LOSE MONEY

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MAN IS BURNED IN TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AT PLAZA HOTEL

Disastrous Consequences Attend Attempt of Carroll J. McCloud to Light a Cigarette In Gas-filled Room

With a terrific blast that shook the houses for blocks around, a gas explosion in Room 3 at the Plaza Hotel at 1:20 Wednesday morning, wrecked the room, broke windows in both upper and lower floors of the building and put Carroll J. McCloud, age 31, in the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital suffering from burns over almost three-fourths of his body. His condition is critical and medical attendants hold out scant hope for his survival.

Old Grads Hold Home Coming Reunion Monday

Great Preparations Being Made for Annual Event at High School

Extensive preparations have been made by the committee in charge of arrangements for the fifth annual Torrance high school alumni homecoming and reunion to be held at the high school, Monday, June 13, according to President Leonard Babcock, '27.

An all-day session has been planned with registration of graduates beginning at 10:00. The old grads will then have an opportunity to renew acquaintances and visit classes and teachers until luncheon. At 1:15 a pep rally and entertainment will be held in the auditorium to be followed by the annual baseball game between the varsity and alumni. The annual banquet and business meeting will be held in the school cafeteria beginning at 6:30 o'clock to be followed by an evening of dancing in the gymnasium.

Torrance High Alumni Association, which was organized in 1918, now boasts a membership of about 400. Officers for the current year are Leonard Babcock, president; Kathryn Wheaton Farmer, vice-president; Katharine Burmaster, secretary; and Earl Tavan, treasurer.

The Torrance city council recently forwarded a resolution to the board asking that local labor be used on the contract as far as possible.

Members of the American Legion will make their eleven-day annual pilgrimage to Catalina Island for the annual outing next Saturday and Sunday, June 11-12. This event, which promises to be the biggest since the inauguration of the affair, will be held under the auspices of the Los Angeles county council. The program will include a "stunt" by each post, competition among various drum and bugle corps, bands and drill teams, a "Neptune Party" by